

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSAKA 00182 240255Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /062 W

-----010364 241058Z /14

R 240030Z FEB 78

FM AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3355

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL FUKUOKA (BY POUCH)

AMCONSUL SAPPORO (BY POUCH)

AMCONSUL NAHA (BY POUCH)

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSAKA KOBE 0182

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, JA

SUBJECT: FURTHER COMPLICATIONS IN KYOTO GUVERNATORIAL ELECTION

REF: OSAKA/KOBE 144

SUMMARY: POTENTIAL COMPROMISE CANDIDATE IN KYOTO GUVERNATORIAL ELECTION ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 22 HE WOULD NOT RUN. THIS LEFT DSP AND TO SLIGHTLY SMALLER DEGREE LDP IN DIFFICULT SPOTS WITH ELECTION LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AWAY. KOMEITO AGAIN PLAYED TRUMP CARD ON BEHALF OF JOINT JSP-KOMEITO CANDIDATE AND THOSE TWO PARTIES REPORTEDLY STEPPED UP EFFORTS TO RECONCILE LOCAL DSP TO SHAKOMIN ALLIANCE. INCUMBENT GOVERNOR NINAGAWA HAS NOT YET ANNOUNCED INTENTIONS. OBJECT OF KOMEITO WOOING OF JSP AT EXPENSE DSP IS NOT YET APPARENT, AT LEAST ON LOCAL SCENE. END SUMMARY.

1. KYOTO UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT OKAMOTO, SOUGHT BY LDP AND DSP AS CONSENSUS CNADIDATE, TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 22 HE FELT OBLIGED TO CONTINUE IN UNIVERSITY POSITION AND CONSEQUENTLY WOULD NOT BECOME CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR. LDP PREFECTURAL ORGANIZATION THEREUPON RENEWED ITS CALL TO CENTRAL LDP HEADQUARTERS TO APPROVE UPPER HOUSE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 OSAKA 00182 240255Z

MEMBER HAYASHIDA AS CNADIDATE, AND DSP KYOTO PREFECTURAL ORGANIZATION LEADERS, KYOTO DIET MEMBERS AND CENTRAL PARTY HEADS AGAIN FACED UNATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVES OF SUPPORTING JSP DIET MEMBER YAMADA IN SHAKOMIN ALLIANCE, TRYING TO FIND OWN CANDIDATE, OR PERMITTING DSP SUPPORTERS TO VOTE THEIR OWN PREFERENCE.

2. ONE KEY FACTOR IN OKAMOTO DECISION TO FOREGO CANDIDACY APPEARS

TO HAVE BEEN KOMEITO NATIONAL-LEVEL ENDORSEMENT OF YAMADA CANDIDACY FEBRUARY 20. COMBINED WITH JSP EARLIER MANDATORY REAFFIRMATION OF BACKING FOR YAMADA, KOMEITO ACTION FORECLOSED POSSIBILITY OF OKAMOTO BECOMING CONSENSUS CANDIDATE.

3. PRESS FEBRUARY 23 SAID JSP AND KOMEITO WERE INTENSIFYING EFFORTS TO GET DSP BACK ON SHAKOMIN TRACK, AND REPORTED FOR FIRST TIME POSSIBLE JSP-KOMEITO GESTURES TO SWEETEN THE PILL OF YAMADA CANDIDACY FOR DSP. SUGGESTION WAS THESE WOULD INCLUDE JSP-KOMEITO SUPPORT FOR DSP CANDIDATES IN BY-ELECTION FOR TWO SEATS IN KYOTO PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY, AND "CONSIDERATION OF" SIMILAR SUPPORT FOR DSP CANDIDATE IN BY-ELECTION TO FILL HAYASHIDA KYOTO-DISTRICT SEAT IN DIET UPPER HOUSE IF HE ENTERS RACE FOR GOVERNOR. IF SHAKOMIN ALLIANCE IS FORMED FOR UPPER HOUSE RACE IT SHOULD WIN, ON BASIS OF PAST ELECTION STATISTICS, BUT SEAT WOULD BE OF LIMITED VALUE TO DSP SINCE ONLY TWO YEARS WOULD REMAIN OF HAYASHIDA'S TERM AND DSP BY ITSELF COULD NOT HOPE TO RETAIN SEAT IN SUBSEQUENT ELECTION.

4. OKAMOTO REFUSAL TO RUN PUTS LDP AS WELL AS DSP ON SPOT. LDP HEADQUARTERS ARE SAID TO BE INCREASINGLY RELUCTANT TO GIVE UP HAYASHIDA'S UPPER HOUSE SEAT, WHERE LDP MAJORITY IS ONE SEAT. OBVIOUS LDP WOOING OF OKAMOTO ALSO TENDED UNDERCUT CANDIDACY OF HAYASHIDA OR OTHER SEPARATE LDP NOMINEE IN KYOTO BY MAKING LATTER LOOK LIKE SECOND CHOICE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 OSAKA 00182 240255Z

5. CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT IN INFORMATION SO FAR IS WHAT BENEFIT KOMEITO EXPECTS FROM ITS MANEUVERING ON THE KYOTO SCENE. THERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS THAT KOMEITO BACKING OF YAMADA IS PRICE OF JSP BACKING OF JOINT CANDIDATES IN OTHER MAJOR LOCAL ELECTIONS THIS YEAR AND NEXT. YAMADA'S GIVING UP HIS LOWER HOUSE SEAT TO RUN FOR GOVERNOR WOULD NOT NECESSITATE BY-ELECTION IN FIVE-MEMBER KYOTO SECOND DISTRICT. IT APPEARS POSSIBLE THEREFORE THAT KOMEITO CHIEF INTEREST IS IN STRENGTHENING ITS NATIONAL RELATIONS WITH JSP, EVEN AT EXPENSE OF DSP. IN THIS CASE, KOMEITO PAYOFF IS PRESUMABLY BEING CLACULATED AT PARTY CENTRAL LEVEL, NOT AT KYOTO LEVEL, AND MAY TAKE LESS TANGIBLE FORM THAN IMMEDIATE ALLIANCE SUPPORT FOR KOMEITO CANDIDATES.

6. INCUMBENT GOVERNOR NINAGAWA STILL HAS NOT SAID WHETHER HE WILL RUN. THIS LEAVES JCP AND HIS POTENTIAL PERSONAL BACKERS IN INCREASINGLY UNTENABLE POSITION WITH REGARD TO CHOICE OF ANY OTHER CANDIDATE. EFFECT, IF NINAGAWA DOES NOT RUN, COULD WELL BE TO LEAVE JCP RUNNING STRICTLY PARTY-LINE CANDIDATE, WITH NINAGAWA'S PERSONAL FOLLOWING ABSTAINING OR EVEN GOING TO LDP CANDIDATE AS AGAINST YAMADA, FOR WHOM NINAGAWA HAS EXPRESSED STRONG PERSONAL ANTIPATHY.

AINSWORTH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OSAKA00182
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780085-1214
Format: TEL
From: OSAKA KOBE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780217/aaaaanrr.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2fc738d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 OSAKA KOBE 144
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3487423
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER COMPLICATIONS IN KYOTO GUVERNATORIAL ELECTION
TAGS: PINT, JA, (OKAMOTO), (NINAGAWA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2fc738d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014